

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RABAT 00172 101415Z

43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05 /084 W
----- 119472

R 101240Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4262

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 0172

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR VS MO

SUBJECT: GVN FONMIN VISITS MOROCCO

REF: FREETOWN 31

1. GVN FONMIN VOUNG VAN BAC TO LEAVE RABAT TODAY, AFTER THREE-DAY STAY. AS REPORTED REFTEL, HE IS CUTTING SHORT HIS TRIP AND RETURNING TO SAIGON.
 2. BAC WAS ACCORDED GOOD RECEPTION BY MOROCCANS. HE MET WITH KING HASSAN ON EVENING JAN 9 AND PRESENTED MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT THIEU. HE ALSO HAD BILATERALS WITH PRIME MINISTER OSMAN AND FONMIN LARAKI. ON SOCIAL SIDE, BAC WAS GUEST OF HONOR AT LUNCH GIVEN BY FONMIN JAN 8 AND AT GVN AMB'S RECEPTION FOLLOWING EVENING. LATTER EVENT FOLLOWED BY DINNER FOR SMALLER GROUPS OF GUESTS. PRESS COVERAGE OF VISITS, THOUGH NOT VOLUMINOUS, WAS THOROUGH.
 3. DURING JAN 9 DINNER, BAC TOLD ME THAT VISIT HAD GONE WELL. KING HAD BEEN GRACIOUS, HAD FOLLOWED HIS PRESENTATION CLOSELY AND HAD URGED HIM TO PRESS HARD FOR FULLEST U.S. PHYSICAL AND DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT. KING, ACCORDING TO BAC, PROMISED TO STAND
- CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RABAT 00172 101415Z

BY GVN IN THIS CRISIS AND TO HELP AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. KING HAD

EXPRESSED CONCERN AT VIGOR OF COMMUNISM, IN VIET-NAM IN PARTICULAR AND THROUGHOUT WORD GENERALLY.

4. PURPOSE OF HIS MISSION, BAC SAID TO ME, WAS TO COUNTER COMMUNIST TACTIC OF SHOCKING AND DIVIDING PEOPLE OF VIET-NAM ON BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL FRONTS. INTERNALLY, COMMUNIST PURPOSE IS TO WEAKEN RESOLVE OF COUNTRY AND STRENGTHEN HAND OF ELEMENTS AGITATING FOR COALITION GOVERNMENT. PLAN EXTERNALLY IS TO ENHANCE VC CLAIM TO GOVERNMENT STATUS. BAC SAID HE HOPED DURING TRIP TO FIRM UP SUPPORT FOR GVN POSITION BOTH BILATERALLY AND IN UN.

5. GVN, BAC ASSERTED, WILL EVENTUALLY RETAKE PHOU C BIH. HOWEVER, AS IS ALWAYS CASE, MUCH LESS PUBLICITY WILL ACCRUE TO RECAPTURE THAN TO INITIAL COMMUNIST SUCCESS.

6. AT JAN 9 DINNER, I SAT NEXT TO BAC'S CHIEF OF CABINET WHO ALSO INDICATED DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE GOING WELL. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION, CABINET CHIEF SAID THAT REASON FOR BAC'S BEING CALLED BACK WAS TO RECEIVE NEW INSTRUCTIONS TO COVER NEW SITUATION. CABINET CHIEF NOTED THAT HIS BROTHER WAS IN MILITARY AND THAT ARVN WAS FACED WITH ACUTE SHORTAGES OF AMMUNITION AND FUEL. HE ECHOED BAC'S COMMENT THAT NEED FOR U.S. SUPPLIES AND SUPPORT WAS CRITICAL.

7. AT DINNER, FONMIN LARAKI TOOK ME ASIDE AND EXPRESSED CONCERN AT APPARENT STRENGTH OF COMMUNISTS, NOT ONLY IN VIET-NAM BUT WORLDWIDE. HE CITED PORTUGAL AND ITALY AS OTHER CASES IN POINT. MOROCCO, LARAKI SAID, IS ANTI-COMMUNIST, HAVING HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE WITH COMMUNIST DUPLICITY, AND SUPPORTS GVN, BUT WONDERS WHY "SAIGON DOING SO BADLY". I POINTED OUT THAT GVN, AS DEFENDER, WAS AT GREAT DISADVANTAGE VIS A VIS COMMUNISTS WHO, AS AGGRESSORS, HAVE ADVANTAGE OF BEING ABLE TO STRIKE WHEN AND WHERE THEY WISH. LARAKI ACCEPTED THIS ARGUMENT BUT NOTED THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR GVN TO RESTORE WORLD'S CONFIDENCE IN ITS VIABILITY.

8. COMMENT: WE ARE STRUCK BY GOOD RECEPTION ACCORDED BAC DURING HIS VISIT AND BELIEVE MOROCCANS SINCERE IN THEIR EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT FOR GVN. IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT GOM AT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 RABAT 00172 101415Z

ALL LEVELS IS IMPRESSED BY RECENT COMMUNIST MILITARY ADVANCES.
NEUMANN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975RABAT00172
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750010-0830
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750162/aaaacbyz.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 FREETOWN 31
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <26 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GVN FONMIN VISITS MOROCCO
TAGS: PFOR, VS, MO, (VUONG VAN BAC)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006